

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PRS-01 PM-04 INR-07 SS-15 /049 R

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-----180521 083143 /11

R 171847Z FEB 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
INFO CINCPAC  
COGARD  
GOVGUAM  
TREASURY

UNCLAS STATE 036557

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 17 EA PRESS SUMMARY

### 1. THAILAND

COMMUNIST REBEL ATTACK ON COPTER 2/16 KILLED THAI PRINCESS  
AID TO QUEEN, LEFT 4 OTHERS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED (WP, NYT,  
CSM; SUN HAS UPI PHOTO OF PRINCESS).

RTG ORDERED FEER CORRESPONDENT LEAVE COUNTRY 2/16 FOR  
REPORTING WHAT WAS ALLEGED DETRIMENTAL TO THAI SECURITY  
(AFP, WP).

### 2. BURMA

ACCORDING GOVT SPOKESMAN, GUB TROOPS KILLED 56 REBEL KAREN  
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TRIBESMEN/WOUNDED 84 IN SERIES OF SE BURMA BATTLES LAST  
WEEK (AP SUN, WP).

### 3. INDOCHINA

REFUGEES FROM LAOS REPORTED TUES THAT COMMUNIST GOVT  
SOLDIERS ARE BATTLING RESISTANCE FORCES AROUND VIENTIANE,  
WITH DOZENS WOUNDED PL TROOPS TREATED FOR GUN/GRENADE  
WOUNDS (WSTAR 2/16).

### 4. CHINA

NCNA REVEALS PRC WILL SUSPEND SHELLING QUEMOY/OTHER NEARBY OCCUPIED ISLANDS FOR TWO DAYS TO MARK SPRING FESTIVAL (AP, NYDN).

REUTER CITES FEER REPORT THAT PEKING SIGNALLED INTEREST IN SETTling ASSETS ISSUE TO DAVID ROCKEFELLER. SIMILAR AP STORY CARRIED BY SUN ADDS THAT US OFFICIALS DECLINED COMMENT ON HOW PRC COMMUNICATED WISH SETTLE PROBLEM.

LAT'S LESLIE (HK 2/16) CITES VIEW OF US BUSINESSMAN, WITH "HIGH LEVEL CONTACTS" IN PRC MOFT, THAT PRC SHOWING "UNPRECEDENTED RECEPTIVITY" TO TRADE WITH US. ALSO NOTES OTHER SIGNS OF NEW CHINESE ATTITUDE TOWARD TRADE/RELS WITH US, AND SAYS ELIMINATION ASSETS-CLAIMS PROBLEM COULD LEAD TO SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE SINO-US TRADE.

IN HK, UPI'S CHARLIE SMITH, DRAWING FROM NCNA, REPORTS PRC CONCERN WITH SOVIET EFFORTS TO WOO CARTER (2/16).

PD ARTICLE STRESSING NEED FOR RATIONAL RULES/CONTROL IN INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT ATTACKS "GANG OF FOUR" FOR FANNING ANARCHISM/DISRUPTING INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION (REUTER HK).

##### 5. JAPAN

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WSTAR (2/16) CARRRIES UPI STORY GOJ INVESTIGATIONS INTO ALLEGED BOEING BRIBES. REPORT STATES BOARD OF AUDIT, WHICH CHECKS JAL TRANSACTIONS, TOLD MONDAY'S BUDGET CMTE SESSION 1? WOULD SEND OWN INVESTIGATORS TO US. JUSTICE MIN FUKUDA SAID AWAITING USG REPORT ON CASE (EXCERTEd IN LAT 2/16).

SPEAKING BEFORE BUDGET CMTE WED, FUKUDA SAID JAPAN WILL RE-EXAMINE ENERGY POL IN VIEW COUNTRY'S SERIOUSLY LAGGING NUKE POWER PLANT CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM. PM ADMITTED '85 NUKE ENERGY TARGET SET BY GOJ WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT ATTAIN (CULLISON, JOC).

FLOTILLA OF 38 SMALL FISHING BOATS LAUNCHES WK-LONG OPN TO COLLECT GARBAGE WHICH JAPAN ALLEGES WAS DUMPED BY SOV FISHING BOATS IN CHOSI PORT. GOJ LAST MONTH DEMANDED IMMEDIATE END TO SUCH ALLEGED DUMPING WHICH HAS DAMAGED FISHING NETS/POLLUTED OCEAN (REUTER CHOSI).

RCA/JAPAN'S KOKUSAI DENSHIN DENWA CO JOINTLY CONDUCTING TESTS OF HIGH-SPEED FACSIMILE SYSTEM, WHICH OPERATES IN HALF TIME OF FASTEST SYSTEM CURRENTLY IN USE. TEST TRANS-

MISSIONS HAVE BEEN MADE ON 29,000-MILE NY-SYDNEY-NY-FRISCO-

TOKYO ROUTE (WSJ).

ARMBRUSTER (CSM) REPORTS ON DISCRIMINATION IN JAPAN. NOTES AT LEAST 4 GROUPS--KOREANS, OKINAWANS, AINU, BURAKUMIN--ENCOUNTER DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT/WELFARE ADMINISTRATION/LOAN APPLICATIONS. KOREANS ALSO CLAIM COUNTRY'S FON REGISTRATION LAW UNFAIR, DUE SEVERE PENALTIES IMPOSED IF CAUGHT W/O REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE.

6. JAPAN/KOREA

DIET MEMBERS/39 SKOREAN CONGRESSMEN MET IN TOKYO 2/16,  
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ENDORSED COMPROMISE COMMUNIQUE URGING US PLANNED TROOP WITHDRAWAL BE "CAUTIOUS." STATEMENT FALLS SHORT SKOREAN DESIRE FOR RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD HAVE FORMALLY OBJECTED TO PLANNED PULLOUT. JAPAN/SK FONMINS EXPECTED MEET THURS IN TOKYO. JAPANESE SOURCES SAY SKOREANS TRYING DRUM UP JAPANESE OPPOSITION TO WITHDRAWAL, THO BOTH GOVTS DESCRIBE SERIES HIGH-LEVEL MTGS "ROUTINE VISITS." LDP SPOKESMAN SAYS MANY PARTY LEADERS SYMPATHIZE W/SKOREAN POSITION, BUT THEIR HANDS TIED DUE FUKUDA'S AGREEMENT NOT INTERFERE W/US POL TOWARD SK (SEIDEN, SUN).

ROKG ACTIONS PREVENT INCREASES IN NUMBER KOREAN SEAMEN EMPLOYMENT ABOARD JAPANESE/OTHER NON-KOREAN MERCHANT VESSELS CAUSING CONCERN AMONG JAPAN'S SHIPPING EXECS. OF 12,000 KOREANS WORKING ABOARD SUCH SHIPS, AT LEAST 8,000 ON JAPANESE-OWNED VESSELS. JAPANESE SAILORS TOO COSTLY, AND IF EMPLOYMENT RESTRICTIONS CONTINUE, JAPAN MAY BE FORCED HIRE LARGER NUMBERS TAIWANESE/FILS/CHINESE FROM HK (CULLISON, JOC).

WH CONFIRMS PRES REQUESTED/RECEIVED STATUS REPORT FROM ATTY GEN BELL ON KOREAN INVESTIGATION/OTHER PROBES; PRESS SEC POWELL SAID PRES WANTED REPORT BECAUSE EVERYTIME HE PICKED UP NEWSPAPER "THERE'S ANOTHER STORY ABOUT ONE OR THE OTHER INVESTIGATIONS." IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, POWELL SAID CARTER "DIDN'T DIRECT" BELL ON HOW PROCEED, BUT AGREED W/BELL'S "INCLINATION" MOVE RAPIDLY/AGGRESSIVELY (OPPENHEIMER, WSTAR 2/16). REUTER (2/16) ADDS PRES ASKED FOR INDICTMENTS IF ENOUGH EVIDENCE EXISTED.

IN EARLIER STORY ON RELEASE BELL'S LOG INDICATING MTG W/PRES ON KOREAN ISSUE, OPPENHEIMER (2/15) QUOTES ATTY GEN'S REPLY TO QUESTION ASKED ON CBS-TV'S "FACE THE NATION" SUNDAY ON WHETHER HE THOUGHT ALLEGATIONS ON PAYOFFS OF CONGRESS EXAGGERATED. BELL MADE NO SPECIFIC REPLY, BUT SAID GRAND JURY INVESTIGATION NEEDN'T BE RUN FOR MOS/YRS  
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IN ORDER FIND OUT WHETHER CASE EXISTS; ADDED, "IF WE DON'T HAVE A CASE, LET'S SAY SO. IF WE DO, LET'S INDICT."

ARMSTRONG (WP) REPORTS JUSTICE DEPT SOURCES SAY BELL TOLD PRES HE EXPECTS INDICTMENT SEVERAL FORMER/PRESENT CONGRESSMEN IN CONNECTION W/KOREAN BRIBERY SCANDAL. ONE SOURCE SAYS 4-6 INDICTMENTS EXPECTED WITHIN NEXT FEW MOS. NOTES BELL'S STATEMENTS CALLING FOR PROBE'S RAPID CONCLUSION CREATING CONCERN; SOME FEEL BELL DOESN'T UNDERSTAND COMPLICATED NETWORK ALLEGED SKOREAN INVOLVEMENTS W/CONGRESS, MAY NOT BE WILLING GIVE INVESTIGATORS YR OR MORE THEY FEEL NEEDED COMPLETE PROBE.

LA DISTRICT JUDGE ORDERS 2 KOREAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE BUSINESSMEN APPEAR AT SEC OFFICE NEXT MO TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT ALLEGED BRIBES TO US MIL/POL FIGURES AIMED AT PROMOTING SALE MIL EQUIPMENT TO SK (REUTER 2/16). SEC INVESTIGATING CONTRIBUTIONS DISGUISED AS CONSULTANTS' FEES PAID MEN BY DALLAS-BASED E-SYSTEMS INC. SEC ATTY TOLD COURT TONG SUN PARK HAS ALSO BEEN LINKED TO INSTITUTE (WSJ).

US ARMY DENIES NKOREAN CHARGES THAT INFESTED HUMAN ORGANS FROM GERM TESTS CONDUCTED BY SK WERE SHIPPED TO ARMY LAB IN MD FOR ANALYSIS; SAYS ARMY RECEIVED FEVER-INFECTED ANIMAL ORGANS FROM UNIV KOREA (REUTER 2/16).

IN LENGTHY SEOUL ITEM, REUTER'S LEE (2/16) REPORTS ON "CONFIDENT" SK'S CALM REACTION TO CARTER'S PLEDGE FOR PHASED PULLBACK US TROOPS. RECALLS PARK'S NON-OPPOSITION ON CONDITION NK SIGNED NONAGGRESSION PACT, WHICH NK BRANDED AS "EMPTY TALK." LEE REVIEWS US' 27-YR CONTINUOUS MIL PRESENCE/AI8 PROGRAM/SK'S PLANS BEEF UP DEFENSE. QUOTES PETER SIM, CHRMN AUSTRALIA'S SENATE CMTE ON FON AFFAIRS AND DEFTHAT AUSTRALIA/SEA COUNTRIES HE VISITED RECENTLY EXPRESSED MISGIVINGS OVER REDUCED US PRESENCE IN UNCLASSIFIED

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REGION, BUT FEARS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN ALLAYED BY MONDALE'S TOKYO TRIP. NOTES NATL DAILY "DONGHA ILBO" RECENTLY EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT W/O US GROUND TROOPS, PRC/RUSSIA WOULD SUPPORT NKOREAN ATTACK, AND ONCE TROOPS GONE, POSSIBILITY "VERY SLIM" THEY WOULD RETURN. LEE ALSO MENTIONS FORD ADMIN'S IDEA, APPROVED BY OPPOSITION NEW DEM PARTY, FOR GURANTEE OF PEACE BY US/JAPAN/RUSSIA/PRC BEFORE US WITHDRAWAL. CONCLUDES W/DISCUSSION SK'S MIL CAPACITY.

KANG MOON-BONG, FORMER 3-STAR GEN/DIPLOMAT/NATL ASSEMBLY MEMBER, SENTENCED TO 10 YRS IN PRISON, WED AFTER BEING CONVICTED OF TAKING 90,000 DOLS IN BRIBES FROM BUSINESSMEN (CHITRIB 2/17).

NY ATT GEN LEFKOWITZ TO SEEK INJUNCTION NEXT WK TO PREVENT REV MOON-CONNECTED KOREAN CULTURAL/FREEDOM FNDTN FROM SOLICITING FUNDS IN NY STATE (NYT 2/17).

7. PHILIPPINES

MARCOS POSTPONES PLEBISCITE SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY ON FORMATION AUTONOMOUS MOSLEM REGION IN SOUTH; EXPLAINS VOTERS HAD ASKED MORE TIME (WP).

8. SHOE IMPORTS

AFL-CIO'S MEANY ASKED CARTER WEDNESDAY TO RAISE SHOE IMPORT TARIFFS BY AT LEAST 50 PCT POINTS TO HELP US SHOE INDUSTRY. IN LETTER TO PRES, MEANY SAID HIGHER TARIFFS SHOULD BE KEPT AT LEAST 5 YEARS, WITH NO EXCEPTIONS ALLOWED (REUTER WASHINGTON 2/16).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

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CSM NOTES RECENT PRC GOLD SHIPMENT AND TALKS WITH ROCKEFELLER TO SUPPORT ARGUMENTS THAT DESPITE POLITICAL UNCERTAINTY, PRKING IS MOVING IN DIRECTION INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION/GREATER TRADE WITH WEST, AND THAT WESTERN NATIONS SHOULD ENCOURAGE THIS NEW MOOD.

IN ARTICLE ON SOVIET ARMS SALES TO PERU, TAD SZULC WRITES THAT US REPORTEDLY CONSIDERING APPROVAL FOR BRITAIN TO SELL PRC JAGUAR FIGHTER-BOMBER WITH US-BUILT ENGINE. COMMENTS THAT SUCH PEKING-TILTED DECISION BY CARTER ADMIN WHEN US-SOVIET DETENTE UNDER STRESS COULD CONSTITUTE MAJOR POLICY DECISION RE COMMUNIST POWERS AND INVOLVE US IN ASIAN ARMS RACE (WSTAR 2/16).

BRADSHER WRITES THAT MONTHS AFTER RADICALS LOCKED UP AND HUA PROCLAIMED PARTY CHAIRMAN, PRC LEADERSHIP STILL CLOUDY AND WILL REMAIN SO UNTIL DIFFICULT AND OVERDUE DECISION MADE ON WHAT DO WITH TENG (WSTAR 2/16).

10. PHILIPPINES

IN COTABATO, NYT'S KAMM FINDS MOSLEMS/CHRISTIANS OF THAT AREA HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT CEASE-FIRE BEING TURNED INTO LASTING PEACE--AND MARCOS DID NOT ALLAY THEM WEDNESDAY WHEN HE SUDDENLY POSTPONED FOR MONTH REFERENDUM HE HAD JUST AS SUDDENLY SCHEDULED 5 DAYS BEFORE. SAYS PRES' ACTION GENERALLY INTERPRETED AS INDICATION THINGS NOT GOING WELL

IN TRIPOLI AUTONOMY TALKS. REPORTS AIR OF SKEPTICISM IN COTABOTO/MANILA/ZAMBOANIGA ABOUT AGREEMENT, ITS MOTIVATION AND CHANCES OF SUCCESS. BUT, FOR TIME BEING, CEASE-FIRE WORKING, EVEN AROUND RAW/UGLY COTABOTO.

11. KOREA

EVANS/NOVAK (WP) LOOK BEYOND "PERSONAL WRECKAGE" KOREAN BRIBERY SCANDAL; FIND THREAT TO US FOPOL IN ASIA. FORE-UNCLASSIFIED

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SEE "SEVERE TROUBLE" IN CARTER'S SHARPLY-CUT KOREAN-AID REQUEST, WHICH HOUSE WILL "UNDOUBTEDLY" SUSTAIN IN VIEW INCREASED CONGRESSIONAL BACKING FOR "HUMAN RIGHTS" CAMPAIGN PLUS FACT "EVERY TAINTED MEMBER" TRYING "PURGE HIMSELF" FROM SCANDAL. QUOTES PROMINENT CONGRESSIONAL DEM'S WARNING, ECHOED BY TEXAS REP WRIGHT, THAT WITHDRAWAL US GROUND TROOPS SHOULD BE VERY MODEST, SINCE "SCANDAL-CONSCIOUS" HOUSE MAY SPEED IT UP ANYWAY. ALSO QUOTE "HIGH ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL" ON NECESSITY DETACH KOREAN SCANDAL FROM "VERY REAL" POL/MIL INTERESTS US HAS IN SK. COLUMNISTS WARN OF KIM'S READINESS FOR AGGRESSION, SAY "PANIC" ON HOUSE FLOOR BY "TERRIFIED CONGRESSMEN" PROCLAIMING ABANDONMENT KOREA "WOULD BE A LAST COMBUSTIBLE ELEMENT." HARTMAN

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## Message Attributes

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